

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 279906

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 OIC-02

AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 INR-05

NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04

SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 L-02 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-06 /113 R

66604

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/OF:JAPLACKE:ML

APPROVED BY EB/ORF:JULIUS L. KATZ

USDA - R BELL

IO/AGR - P BYRNES

TREASURY - J HARTZELL

CIEP - WSHARP

IO/OIC - M JACKSON

STR - SLANDE

EA - P C HABIB (DRAFT)

EUR/RPE - J MCCARTHY

EUR/SOV - J COLBERT

NEA/RA - H MONTGOMERY

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R 231517Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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PAGE 02 STATE 279906

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS:ETRD
SUBJECT: US PROPOSAL FOR DISCUSSION OF GRAIN RESERVES

ROME FOR FODAG

BACKGROUND

1. IN HIS SPEECH AT THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE SECRETARY KISSINGER PROPOSED THAT CONFERENCE ORGANIZE MAJOR GRAIN EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS GROUP, TO BE KNOWN AS RESERVES COORDINATING GROUP, TO AGREE ON INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF NATIONALLY-HELD GRAIN RESERVES. CONFERENCE DID NOT ESTABLISH THIS GROUP, BUT IT DID ADOPT RESOLUTION WHICH, INTER ALIA, INVITES MAJOR CEREALS PRODUCING, CONSUMING AND TRADING COUNTRIES TO ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION OF FAO-SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL UNDERTAKING ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY WHICH OUTLINES GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR RESERVES SYSTEM.

2. US CONSIDERS THAT AGREEMENT ON RESERVES SHOULD HAVE AS ITS MAIN OBJECTIVE ENHANCING WORLD FOOD SECURITY BY PROVIDING FOR RELATIVELY DEPENDABLE AVAILABILITY OF GRAINS. WE FURTHER CONSIDER THAT MAJOR EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS HAVE URGENT RESPONSIBILITY TO PURSUE SUCH OBJECTIVE.

US PROPOSAL
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PAGE 03 STATE 279906

3. US IS TAKING INITIATIVE TOWARD STRENGTHENING WORLD FOOD SECURITY BY INVITING ADDRESSEES' HOST GOVERNMENTS (COMMISSION IN CASE OF EC MEMBERS) TO PARTICIPATE IN AD HOC MEETING OF POLICY-LEVEL OFFICIALS TO BE HELD AT INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL IN LONDON FEBRUARY 10 AND 11, 1975, IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO SPECIAL SESSION OF IWC BEGINNING FEBRUARY 12. FOR CONVENIENCE, US HAS ARRANGED FOR USE IWC

FACILITIES, BUT THIS MEETING WOULD NOT BE UNDER IWC AUPICES. IN TAKING THIS INITIATIVE, US FULLY RECOGNIZES THAT ACCUMULATION OF SIGNIFICANT RESERVES CANNOT REALISTICALLY BE CONTEMPLATED UNTIL NEXT (1975/76) CROP YEAR. BUT WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT ACTUAL WORK ON ARRANGEMENT SHOULD BEGIN EARLY IN 1975 SO THAT APPROACH TO RESERVES BUILD-UP CAN BE AGREED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. PURPOSE OF FEBRUARY MEETING WOULD BE TO AGREE ON OBJECTIVES FOR RESERVES ARRANGEMENT AND TO IDENTIFY ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATION. VENUE FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD ALSO BE SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION, SINCE US RECOGNIZES IMPORTANT SUBSTANTIVE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTION. WHILE WE CONSIDER ADDRESSEE COUNTRIES INCLUDE ALL THOSE NECESSARY TO EFFECTIVE ARRANGEMENT, ADDITIONAL PARTICIPATION MIGHT BE DESIRED BY OTHERS AND WE WOULD CONSIDER THEIR VIEWS. FYI. THIS WOULD BE ESPECIALLY APPLICABLE TO THAILAND. SHOULD FEBRUARY DISCUSSIONS RESULT IN CONCLUSION THAT RICE SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN RESERVE, THEN THAI PARTICIPATION WOULD LOGICALLY FOLLOW. END FYI.

ARRANGEMENTS

5. AS HOSTS, US WILL REQUEST IWC TO PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SECRETARIAT SERVICES AND IS CONSIDERING PROPOSING IWC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PAROTTE AS INDEPENDENT CHAIRMAN FOR MEETING. VIEWS OF OTHER PARTICIPANTS ON CHAIRMAN WOULD BE WELCOMED.

6. WE PLAN TO CIRCULATE DRAFT AGENDA TO ALL PARTICIPANTS SEVERAL WEEKS BEFORE MEETING, AS WELL AS BACKGROUND DOCUMENTATION (IN ENGLISH ONLY) ON FOOD SECURITY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 STATE 279906

QUESTION. WE ARE ARRANGING, THROUGH IWC SECRETARIAT, NECESSARY INTERPRETATION SERVICES FOR MEETING SESSIONS.

ACTION REQUESTED

7. ADDRESSEES (EXCEPT PEKING, SEE BELOW) SHOULD EXTEND APPROPRIATE WRITTEN INVITATION TO AD HOC RESERVES DISCUSSIONS IN NAME OF USG, DRAWING ON ABOVE FOR RATIONALE AND EXPLANATION OF DETAILS AS NECESSARY. IN CASE OF EC, INVITATION SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO COMMISSION TO REPRESENT MEMBER STATES, WHILE EMBASSIES IN EC CAPITALS SHOULD FULLY INFORM GOVERNMENTS OF US INITIATIVE. WE EXPECT THAT INTERESTED EC MEMBER GOVERNMENTS WOULD SEND OBSERVERS TO MEETING. INFORMATION ADDRESSEES SHOULD NOT INITIATE DISCUSSION OF RESERVES MEETING, BUT MAY DRAW ON ABOVE

AS NECESSARY TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS.

8. FOR MOSCOW: US DISCUSSED ITS IDEAS ABOUT RESERVE SCHEME WITH SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES IN DETAIL AT THIRD WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE (WFC) PREPARATORY MEETING IN ROME IN SEPTEMBER. WE HAVE SINCE SOUGHT SOVIET REACTION AT WFC AND AT REGULAR IWC MEETING LAST MONTH. RESPONSE IN EACH CASE WAS NON-COMMITTAL. USSR ALSO REFRAINED FROM TAKING ACTIVE PART IN DISCUSSION OF WORLD FOOD SECURITY DURING WFC. IN DELIVERING INVITATION, EMBASSY SHOULD AGAIN STRESS THAT WE CONSIDER SOVIET PARTICIPATION TO BE IMPORTANT TO SUCCESS OF RESERVES SCHEME AND THAT SUCCESSFUL SCHEME WILL BENEFIT ALL PARTICIPANTS -- IMPORTERS AS WELL AS EXPORTERS.

9. FOR PEKING: INSTEAD OF WRITTEN INVITATION, USLO SHOULD DISCUSS MATTER ORALLY WITH MFA, DRAWING ON ABOVE INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE. YOU SHOULD INTRODUCE SUBJECT BY SAYING THAT WE ARE GENERALLY FAMILIAR WITH PRC POSITION FROM PREVIOUS STATEMENTS. HOWEVER, WE WISH TO KEEP PRC INFORMED, AND WOULD OF COURSE WELCOME PRC PARTICIPATION IF THEY WISH TO ATTEND. (ROC NOT INVITED.)

10. FOR CANBERRA. THIS MESSAGE ALSO RESPONDS TO YOUR 7860. YOU SHOULD ALSO BE INFORMED THAT ERIC HALL (DEPT OF OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT) AND A.W. LLOYD (AUSTRALIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 05 STATE 279906

DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE) HAD INFORMAL BILATERAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND USDA ON THIS SUBJECT DEC 2 WHILE RETURNING TO CANBERRA FROM REGULAR NOV. IWC MEETING IN LONDON. THEY AND SENIOR EMBASSY OFFICIALS AGREED AT THAT TIME TO PROCEDURE OUTLINED HERE. EMBASSY NEVERTHELESS SHOULD ISSUE INVITATION AS OUTLINED ABOVE.

11. POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO REPORT REACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE, GRAINS, FOOD ASSISTANCE, STOCKPILES, EXPORTERS, IMPORTERS, AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE279906
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JAPLACKE:ML
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740373-0355
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741214/aaaaaluz.tel
Line Count: 210
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <23-Aug-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US PROPOSAL FOR DISCUSSION OF GRAIN RESERVES ROME FOR FODAG
TAGS: ETRD, US
To: BONN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005